

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 29 and 37, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A media holding device comprising:
 - a first vertical element formed from a first rod, and forming a first vertical plane defined by a plurality of corner portions, wherein the first vertical element at least partially defines a media holding region for receiving media; and
 - a first horizontal extension element formed from a portion of the first rod, and extending from ~~one of the corner portions~~ a lower rear corner of the first vertical element perpendicularly to the first vertical plane to define a first horizontal plane for supporting the first vertical element, wherein ~~the first horizontal extension element is configured such that, when media is held by the media holding device, the first horizontal extension element is not disposed beneath the media~~ no other horizontal element is connected to the first vertical element and extends into the media holding region, so that the media holding region is free of any horizontal element, including the first horizontal extension element.
2. (Original) The media holding device of claim 1, wherein the first vertical element is triangular.
3. (Original) The media holding device of claim 2, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first vertical element, and a second frictional surface secured to the first horizontal extension element.

4. (Currently amended) The media holding device of claim 1 further comprising:

a second vertical element formed from a second rod, and forming a second vertical plane defined by at least three corner portions, wherein the second vertical element at least partially defines the media holding region; and

a second horizontal extension element formed from a portion of the second rod, and extending from ~~one of the at least three corner portions~~ a lower rear corner of the second vertical element perpendicularly to the second vertical plane to define a second horizontal plane for supporting the second vertical element, wherein ~~the second horizontal extension element is configured such that, when media is held by the media holding device, the second horizontal extension element is not disposed beneath the media~~ no other horizontal element is connected to the second vertical element and extends into the media holding region, so that the media holding region is free of any horizontal element, including the second horizontal extension element.

5. (Original) The media holding device of claim 4, wherein the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are slidably connected such that the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are capable of sliding in both a converging motion and a diverging motion for adjusting a distance between the first vertical element and the second vertical element.

6. (Previously presented) The media holding device of claim 5 further comprising:

a first end stop secured to the first horizontal extension element and slidably connected to the second horizontal extension element; and

a second end stop secured to the second horizontal extension element and slidably connected to the first horizontal extension element;

wherein the first end stop and the second end stop provide a minimum limit and a maximum limit for adjusting the distance between the first

vertical element and the second vertical element.

7. (Original) The media holding device of claim 6, wherein the first end stop comprises a first guide bushing and wherein the second end stop comprises a second guide bushing, wherein the first guide bushing and the second guide bushing are adapted to guide the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element in the converging motion and in the diverging motion.

8. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 6, wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise an oblique hole passageway.

9. (Original) The media holding device of claim 6 wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise frictional means for providing guided frictional resistance to the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element when adjusting the distance between the first vertical element and the second vertical element.

10. (Original) The media holding device of claim 4, wherein the first vertical element and the second vertical element are each triangular.

11. (Original) The media holding device of claim 10, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first vertical element, a second frictional surface secured to the first horizontal extension element, a third frictional surface secured to the second vertical element, and a fourth frictional surface secured to the second horizontal extension element.

12. (Original) The media holding device of claim 11, wherein the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are slidably connected such that the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are capable of sliding in both a converging motion and a diverging motion for adjusting a distance between the first vertical element and the second vertical element.

13. (Previously presented) The media holding device of claim 12 further comprising:
- a first end stop secured to the first horizontal extension element and slidably connected to the second horizontal extension element; and
 - a second end stop secured to the second horizontal extension element and slidably connected to the first horizontal extension element;
- wherein the first end stop and the second end stop provide a minimum limit and a maximum limit for adjusting the distance between the first vertical element and the second vertical element.
14. (Original) The media holding device of claim 13, wherein the first end stop comprises a first guide bushing and wherein the second end stop comprises a second guide bushing, wherein the first guide bushing and the second guide bushing are adapted to guide the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element in the converging motion and in the diverging motion.
15. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 13, wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise an oblique hole passageway.
16. (Original) The media holding device of claim 13 wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise frictional means for providing guided frictional resistance to the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element when adjusting the distance between the first vertical element and the second vertical element.
17. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 4, wherein the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are securely connected, wherein the first vertical element and the second vertical element are separated by a distance determined in part by a combination of a length of the first horizontal extension element and a length of the second horizontal extension element.

18. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 17 further comprising a sleeve for securely connecting the first horizontal extension element and second horizontal extension element.

19. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 18, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first vertical element and a second frictional surface secured to the second vertical element.

20. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 4, wherein the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are removably engagable, wherein when the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element are engaged, the first vertical element and the second vertical element are separated by a distance determined in part by a combination of a length of the first horizontal extension element and a length of the second horizontal extension element.

21. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 20 further comprising a sleeve adapted to allow the first horizontal extension element to removably engage with the second horizontal extension element.

22. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 21, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first vertical element and a second frictional surface secured to the second vertical element.

23. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 4 further comprising a removable extension rod adapted to engage with the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element, for providing a connection between the first vertical element and the second vertical element, wherein when the removable extension rod is engaged with the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element, the first vertical element and the second vertical element are separated by a distance determined in part by a combination of a length of the removable extension rod, a length of the first

horizontal extension element, and a length of the second horizontal extension element.

24. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 23 further comprising:

- a first sleeve engageable with the removable extension rod and the first horizontal extension element, and adapted to allow the removable extension rod to removably engage with the first horizontal extension element; and

- a second sleeve engageable with the removable extension rod and the second horizontal extension element, and adapted to allow the removable extension rod to removably engage with the second horizontal extension element.

25. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 24, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first vertical element and a second frictional surface secured to the second vertical element.

26. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 4 further comprising a plurality of interchangeable, removable extension rods, wherein each of the plurality is adapted to engage with the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element to provide a connection between the first vertical element and the second vertical element, and wherein when one of the plurality is engaged with the first horizontal extension element and the second horizontal extension element, the first vertical element and the second vertical element are separated by a distance determined in part by a combination of a length of the one of the plurality, a length of the first horizontal extension element, and a length of the second horizontal extension element.

27. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 26 further comprising:

- a first sleeve engageable with each of the plurality and the first horizontal extension element, for allowing each of the plurality to removably engage with the first horizontal extension element; and

a second sleeve engageable with each of the plurality and the second horizontal extension element, for allowing each of the plurality to removably engage with the second horizontal extension element.

28. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 27, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first vertical element and a second frictional surface secured to the second vertical element.

29. (Currently amended) A media holding device comprising:

a first upright;

a second upright parallel to the first upright; and

a horizontal support connected to a ~~first~~ lower rear corner portion of the first upright and a ~~second~~ lower rear corner portion of the second upright for providing rear-leveraged retention, ~~wherein the horizontal support is configured such that, when media is held by the media holding device, the horizontal support is not disposed beneath the media;~~ wherein the first upright and the second upright are separated by a distance determined in part by a length of the horizontal support; and a media holding region defined by the first and second uprights and the horizontal support, wherein the media holding region extends laterally between the first and second uprights and forward from the horizontal support, so that the horizontal support is positioned behind the media holding region and the media holding region is free of any horizontal element forward of the horizontal support.

30. (Original) The media holding device of claim 29, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first upright and a second frictional surface secured to the second upright.

31. (Original) The media holding device of claim 29, wherein the length of the horizontal

support is adjustable for adjusting the distance between the first upright and the second upright.

32. (Previously presented) The media holding device of claim 31, wherein the horizontal support comprises:

a first shaft, wherein the first shaft is a first portion of the horizontal support that is connected to the first corner portion of the first upright; and

a second shaft, wherein the second shaft is a second portion of the horizontal support that is connected to the second corner portion of the second upright;

wherein the first shaft and the second shaft are slidably connected for allowing the horizontal shaft to be adjustable.

33. (Original) The media holding device of claim 31, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first upright and a second frictional surface secured to the second upright.

34. (Original) The media holding device of claim 31 further comprising frictional means for providing guided frictional resistance to the horizontal support when adjusting the distance between the first upright and the second upright.

35. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 29, wherein the horizontal support is selectable from a plurality of interchangeable shafts, wherein each of the plurality is removably connectable with the first upright and the second upright, and wherein the length of the horizontal support is determined in part by a length of one of the plurality connected with the first upright and the second upright.

36. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 35, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first upright and a second frictional surface secured to the second upright.

37. (Currently amended) A media holding device comprising:

- a first upright;
- a second upright, wherein the first upright and the second upright are separated by a distance;
- a first horizontal support shaft extending from a ~~first~~ lower rear corner portion of the first upright; ~~and~~
- a second horizontal support shaft extending from a ~~second~~ lower rear corner portion of the second upright; ~~and~~
- a media holding region defined as being between the first and second uprights and forward of the first and second horizontal support shafts, so that the first and second horizontal support shafts are positioned behind the media holding region and the media holding region is free of any horizontal element forward of the first and second horizontal support shafts;

wherein the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft are slidably connected such that the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft are capable of sliding in both a converging motion and a diverging motion, for adjusting the distance between the first upright and the second upright; ~~and wherein the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft are configured such that, when media is held by the media holding device, the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft are not disposed beneath the media.~~

38. (Previously presented) The media holding device of claim 37 further comprising:

- a first end stop secured to the first horizontal support shaft and slidably connected to the second horizontal support shaft; and
- a second end stop secured to the second horizontal support shaft and slidably connected to the first horizontal support shaft;

wherein the first end stop and the second end stop provide a minimum limit and a maximum limit for adjusting the distance between the first upright and the second upright.

39. (Original) The media holding device of claim 38, wherein the first end stop comprises a first guide bushing and wherein the second end stop comprises a second guide bushing, wherein the first guide bushing and the second guide bushing are adapted to guide the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft in the converging motion and in the diverging motion.

40. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 38, wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise an oblique hole passageway.

41. (Original) The media holding device of claim 38, wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise frictional means for providing guided frictional resistance to the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft in the converging motion and in the diverging motion.

42. (Original) The media holding device of claim 38, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first upright and a second frictional surface secured to the second upright.

43. (Original) The media holding device of claim 37, wherein the first upright and the first horizontal support shaft are formed from a first single formed rod, and wherein the second upright and the second horizontal support shaft are formed from a second single formed rod.

44. (Previously presented) The media holding device of claim 43 further comprising:
a first end stop secured to the first horizontal support shaft and slidably connected to the second horizontal support shaft; and
a second end stop secured to the second horizontal support shaft and slidably

connected to the first horizontal support shaft;
wherein the first end stop and the second end stop provide a minimum limit
and a maximum limit for adjusting the distance between the first
upright and the second upright.

45. (Original) The media holding device of claim 44, wherein the first end stop comprises a first guide bushing and wherein the second end stop comprises a second guide bushing, wherein the first guide bushing and the second guide bushing are adapted to guide the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft in the converging motion and in the diverging motion.

46. (Withdrawn) The media holding device of claim 44, wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise an oblique hole passageway.

47. (Original) The media holding device of claim 44, wherein the first end stop and the second end stop each comprise frictional means for providing guided frictional resistance to the first horizontal support shaft and the second horizontal support shaft in the converging motion and in the diverging motion.

48. (Original) The media holding device of claim 44, further comprising a first frictional surface secured to the first upright and a second frictional surface secured to the second upright.